

APPENDIX. O.

URBAN DISTRICT
of
PORTSLADE-BY-SEA.

REPORT

OF THE
Medical Officer of Health,
For the Year 1933.

BY
N. E. CHADWICK, M.A., M.D., D.P.H.

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PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH—

N. E. CHADWICK, M.D., also M.O.H. of Hove.

SURVEYOR AND SANITARY INSPECTOR—

D. V. HOWARD, M.I.M.C.E., C.R.S.I.

PHYSICIAN TO THE CHILD WELFARE CENTRE—

Miss V. E. CLAXTON, M.B.B.S, London.

HEALTH VISITOR AND SCHOOL NURSE—

Miss K. M. YARRAD, C.M.B. H.V's. Certificate.

Urban District of Portslade-by-Sea.

Report of the Medical Officer of Health
for the year 1933.

*To the Chairman and Members of the
Urban District Council.*

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report for the year 1933. The general health of the town, as evidenced by the death returns and prevalence of ordinary disease, was good. In the first quarter, Measles was prevalent, and from Midsummer until the end of the year, Scarlet Fever affected an increasing number of children. The total notifications amounted to 66, as compared with 9 in 1932. General Social Conditions remain as in previous years, and there is evidence that Portslade is sharing in the exodus from the London Suburbs and the population is on the increase.

In connection with Slum Clearance, a large number of the small classes of property have been inspected, with the result that the general housing condition of many of the poorer inhabitants should be improved in the future.

I have included as last year the statistics of the Infant Welfare Centre, which although is no longer under the Council's direct control, must be always an important factor in the health of the area.

I remain,

Your obedient servant,

NORMAN E. CHADWICK.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS, 1933.

Area (acres) 1961.

Population--Census 1931—9527.

Resident Population for 1933—9885.

Inhabited houses (1921)—1527 : Estimated 1933—2308.

Families or separate occupiers—1933—1919.

Rateable value—£74,556.

Sum represented by a penny rate—£294.

SOCIAL CONDITIONS. The population is mainly working-class engaged in the Brighton and Hove Gas Works, factories and laundries. There are no unhealthy occupations; the employers are in nearly all cases keenly interested in the welfare of their workers.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS.

	BIRTHS.	Total	Male	Female
Live Births	Legitimate	139	67	72
	Illegitimate	5	3	2
Birth-rate 15·8.				

Stillbirths :—2. Rate per 1000 births—12·8.

DEATHS	110	56	54
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Death-rate 11·1.

Number of women dying in or in consequence of child-birth :—
from Sepsis : none. From other causes : none.

Deaths of infants under 1 year of age—8.

Rate per 1000 births : Total 51·3.

DEATHS from

Measles (all ages)	...	...	3.
Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	...	none.
Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	...	...	none.

The deaths of persons over 65 years of age were 43 per cent. of all deaths.

POPULATION :

According to the Registrar General's estimate for mid 1933, the population now stands at 9885, an increase of 164 over the similar period in 1932. The births exceeded the deaths by 46, so that approximately two-thirds of the increase must be accounted for by new residents.

CAUSES OF DEATH.

The chief causes of death remain the same as in previous years. Heart Disease is first with 27, followed by Cancer with 21. Despite the incidence of a more virulent form of Influenza in the first quarter, the total deaths from Pneumonia and Influenza combined only amount to 9. Pulmonary Tuberculosis was responsible for 9 deaths, and Other Forms for 4.

The Birth Rate is slightly lower than in 1932, but is still considerably higher than in most parts of the county. The Death Rate is the same as last year. The Infantile Mortality Rate has gone up from 45 per 1000 births to 51. Complications of Influenza or Measles were responsible for 5 of the 8 deaths.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES.

PROFESSIONAL NURSING IN THE HOME.

(a) General and (b) for Infectious Diseases.

Full provision is made for nursing all cases, and for midwifery by the Portslade District Nursing Association, affiliated to the Queen's Institute of District Nursing and East Sussex Nursing Federation, under whom the nurses mentioned above work.

Since April, 1930, the East Sussex County Council has been responsible for Midwifery, and the Nursing of Infectious Disease among Children.

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS are made by the M.O.H. at the Hove Laboratory.

The specimens examined in 1933, were :—

For Diphtheria :—primary for diagnosis	...	...	33
Contacts at homes	...	...	0
For Tuberculosis (sputum)	...	...	27

ADOPTIVE ACTS IN FORCE.

Public Health Acts Amended Act	June, 1901
Private Street Works Act, 1892	January, 1900
Public Health Acts Amendment Act 1907	
Sections 15 to 24 and 26 to 33 of Part II., Part III, Part IV, Part VI.	March 12th, 1912
Public Health Act 1925. Part II, (not Sec. 44 of Part II,) Part III, Part IV, Part V.	Sept. 1st, 1926

BYE-LAWS AND REGULATIONS WITH RESPECT TO--

Slaughter-houses	...	...	May, 1902
Nuisances	...	...	May, 1902

Recreation Ground	...	...	May, 1902
Cleansing of Footpaths and Pavements	...		May, 1902
Tents, Vans, Sheds and Similar Structures used for human habitation			December, 1922
New Streets and Buildings	...		revised Nov. 1926

HOSPITAL SERVICES AVAILABLE FOR INHABITANTS.

GENERAL. All the voluntary Hospitals in Brighton and Hove are used by Portslade residents

The Southlands Hospital, under the East Sussex Public Assistance Committee, is also available.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE. The Hove Borough Sanatorium, which is situated in Portslade, receives cases from this District; maintenance charges for each case being paid to the Hove Council, 3 beds being reserved for this purpose.

SMALLPOX. Cases will be admitted to the special hospital of the Brighton Corporation at Fulking Grange.

TUBERCULOSIS. Patients are sent to Darvell Hall Sanatorium, Robertsbridge: and some to the open air wards at the Southlands Hospital.

INSTITUTIONAL PROVISION FOR UNMARRIED MOTHERS, Illegitimate infants and Homeless Children :—

The Chichester Diocese Moral Welfare Association has a house in St. Andrew's Road, where unmarried mothers and their infants are received pending other arrangements.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES (a) Infectious cases are removed by the Ambulance of the Hove Council (b) For non-infectious and accident cases, ambulances can be hired from private owners.

CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

<i>Name and Situation</i>	<i>When held</i>	<i>Provided by</i>
Maternity and Child Welfare Centre, St. Nicholas' Hall	every Tuesday afternoon	County Council
Day Nursery	none	none
School Clinic for minor ailments St. Nicholas' Hall, Portslade	Daily for 2 hours	County Council
Ditto. for teeth, ditto	once weekly	ditto
Tuberculosis Dispensary Hove Hospital	Fridays at 3 p.m.	County Council
Venereal Diseases Clinic, Royal Sussex County Hospital, Brighton	3 days weekly for men and women	County Council
Orthopædic, St. Nicholas Hall	once per month	County Council
Artificial light	no local clinic	

EAST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL
STATISTICS FOR THE TWELVE MONTHS ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1933.
PORTSLADE INFANT WELFARE CENTRE.

1. WELFARE CENTRE.

(a)	Total number of individual mothers who attended <u>with or without children during the year</u>	...	160
(b)	Total number of individual children who attended for the first time during the year, and who on the date of the first attendance were (i) under 1 year of age 104 ; (ii) between the ages of 1 and 5 years 53, (each child attending during the year should be counted once only).		
(c)	<u>Total number of attendances of</u>	{ mothers 1506 children (i) under 1 year of age 1072 (ii) between the ages of 1 and 5 years 458	
(d)	Number who attended for the <u>first time</u>	{ mothers 66 children (i) under 1 year of age 70 (ii) between the ages of 1 and 5 years 5	
(e)	Total number of children who attended at the Centre during the year, and who, at the end of the year were :—	(i) under 1 year of age 68 (ii) between the ages of 1 and 5 years 89	
(f)	Total number of sessions held	52	

2. ANTE-NATAL CLINIC (whether held at Infant Welfare Centre or at other premises).

- (i) Is the Ante-Natal Clinic held on a separate day or hour from Infant Welfare Centre? Same day, after I.W.C.
- (ii) Does the Medical Officer hold ante-natal consultations during the usual session of the Infant Welfare Centre? After

(a)	Total number of individual expectant mothers who attended during the year	55
(b)	Total number of <u>Attendances</u> during the year	75
(c)	Total number of sessions held	38, i.e. Sessions when cases attended. If had

Date 2/1/34.

(Signed) KATHLEEN M. YARRAD.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES.

WATER SUPPLY.

The whole of the district is supplied by the Brighton Corporation. The water is hard, but of excellent quality, well aerated and very pure : the supply is constant.

DRAINAGE. All drainage is by the water carriage system, excepting a portion of the added area, where there are 113 cesspools, of these 15 have sewers available within 100 feet : 3 not within 100 feet ; 17 are impracticable to drain. New houses are being erected here and it is to be hoped that the scheme already prepared for the drainage of this area will be carried out as soon as possible. The whole of the properties within 100 feet from sewer have been served with notices to connect.

HOUSE REFUSE COLLECTION & DISPOSAL.

The system instituted by the Council on the 1st April, 1927, for the collection of house refuse by direct labour by means of an S.D. Freighter petrol driven collecting van, and disposal by means of controlled tipping in accordance with the requirements of the Ministry of Health, still proves to be thoroughly satisfactory and economical.

No complaints have been received during the year as to non-collection, neither have any complaints been received as to nuisance arising from this method of disposal.

The work of collection has been efficiently carried out, the refuse being collected once weekly from the backs of the houses.

The refuse is tipped in layers not exceeding 6 feet in depth, and is covered with at least 8 inches of clean earth every day.

The site of the tip is an old sand and flint pit which had been excavated to various depths and was purchased some years ago for use as a recreation ground. The excavations are being levelled up in a uniform manner by means of the controlled tipping.

SANITARY INSPECTION. Mr. D. V. Howard has prepared the following Annual Statement of his visits and notices :—

Houses inspected under Housing Regulations	...	445
Houses inspected after complaints	... ..	125

Routine visits to various places	...	...	964
Other visits	...	...	353
Premises disinfected	...	...	74
Informal notices issued	...	...	182
Statutory notices issued	...	...	42
Houses found dirty	...	...	16
" " overcrowded	...	...	5
" with insufficient ashpits or bins	...	...	24
Drains defective	...	...	45
Closets	...	...	28
Sinks	...	...	14
Roofs and Gutters defective	...	...	61
Paving of Yards defective	...	...	2
Minor defects	...	...	81
Kitcheners defective	...	...	9

RATS AND MICE. The Sanitary Inspector acts as officer under this Act : 40 tins of poison, with handbills, were given free to applicants.

SMOKE ABATEMENT.

During the year complaints received from residents as to the nuisance arising from the deposit of black grit emitted from the Brighton Corporation Electricity Generating Station in the Southwick Urban District, were considerably less in number.

HOUSING STATISTICS, 1930.

New houses erected during the year :

Total	...	...	...	60
With State Assistance by Local Authority	...	...	...	0
" " by other persons	...	...	...	0

INSPECTION OF DWELLING HOUSES.

1 *Inspection of dwelling-houses during the Year :—*

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	570
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	964
(2) (a) Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head 1 above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932	445
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	629

(3)	Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	10
(4)	Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	320
2.	<i>Remedy of defects during the Year without Service of formal notices :—</i>	
	Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	221
3.	<i>Action under Statutory Powers during the Year :—</i>	
	<i>A- Proceedings under sections 17, 18 and 23 of the Housing Act 1930</i>	
(1)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	8
(2)	Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—	
	(a) By Owners	8
	(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	0
	<i>B- Proceedings under Public Health Acts :—</i>	
(1)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which informal notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	182
(2)	Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—	
	(a) By Owners	42
	(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	0
	<i>C- Proceedings under sections 19 and 21 of the Housing Act 1930 :</i>	
(1)	Number of representations, etc, made in respect of dwelling houses unfit for habitation	0
(2)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which demolition orders were made	0
(3)	Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition orders	0
(4)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which undertakings were accepted from owners, Section 19 (2) :—	

(a) To render the house fit for human habitation	0
(b) As to usage other than for human habitation	0

D- Proceedings under Section 20 of the Housing Act 1930 :

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	0
(2) Number of separate tenement or underground rooms the Closing Orders in respect of which were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	0

E- Proceedings under sections 11, 14 and 15 of the Housing Act 1925

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made	0
(2) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the dwelling house having been rendered fit	0
(3) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	0
(4) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	0

*F- Proceedings under sections 11 and 18 of the Housing Act 1925
Article 31 Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925 as
substituted by Article 4 of the Housing Consolidated
Amendment Regulations 1932.*

(1) The number of houses which on inspection were considered to be unfit for human habitation	10
(2) The number of houses the defects in which were remedied in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	221
(3) The number of representations made to the Local Authority with a view to :—	
(a) The serving of notices requiring the execution of works, or	50
(b) The making of demolition or closing orders	0
(4) The number of notices served requiring the execution of works	320

- | | |
|---|----|
| (5) The number of houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices after <i>without</i> court proceedings | 49 |
| (6) The number of demolition or closing orders made | 0 |
| (7) The number of houses in respect of which an undertaking was accepted under subsection (2) of Section 19 of the Housing Act 1930 | 0 |
| (8) The number of houses demolished | 0 |

The total number of houses in the area is estimated to be 2308 an increase of 60 since 1932. Many of these houses in the older parts of the town are not up to modern standards, but with continued inspection remain quite serviceable.

There is no evidence of any widespread overcrowding, although a considerable number of families continue to live under inconvenient and unsuitable surroundings. The waiting list for Council Houses to date amounts to 140.

FITNESS OF HOUSES. There has been no difficulty in dealing with the defects found in houses ; water supply and drainage are sufficient. All houses with the exception of 14 have water-closets

BYE-LAWS. Are sufficient : No difficulty has arisen in their enforcement. No case of illness due to housing faults has come to my notice.

SCHOOLS. The wave of Scarlet Fever which involved the whole country reached Portslade in the late Summer, and of the children affected the majority came from St. Nicholas School. This was, however, accidental, and not due to the sanitary condition of the premises.

SLUM CLEARANCE. In consequence of the Ministry of Health Circular No. 1331, the whole of the town was surveyed from the point of view of Slum Clearance. As a result of this review it was recommended that inasmuch as the procedure is simpler, unfit houses should be dealt with individually under Section 17 of the Housing Act, 1930, and not in groups as Clearance or Improvement Areas. Finally two groups of cottages and one house (10 in all) were scheduled for demolition as not capable of being reconditioned at a reasonable cost. A large number of other properties were dealt with under the Housing and Public Health Acts.

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS & WORKPLACES, 1930.

1.—INSPECTION OF FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS & WORKPLACES.

Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspector.

Premises 1)	Number of		
	Inspections (2)	Written Notices (3)	Prosecutions (4)
FACTORIES (Including Factory Laundries).	52	0	None
WORKSHOPS (Including Workshop Laundries)	39	0	None
WORKPLACES (Other than Outworkers' premises)	0	0	None
TOTAL	91	0	None

2 — DEFECTS FOUND IN FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

Particulars. (1)	Number of Defects.			Number of Prose- cutions (5)	
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspector (4)		
<i>Nuisances under the Public Health Acts :—*</i>					
Want of Cleanliness					
Want of Ventilation					
Overcrowding					
Want of drainage of floors					
Other Nuisances					
Sanitary Accommodation {					
					insufficient
					unsuitable or defective
not separate for sexes ...					
<i>Offences under the Factory and Workshops Acts :</i>					
Illegal occupation of underground bakehouse (s 101)					
Other offences					
(Excluding offences relating to outwork and offences under the Sections mentioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health (Factories and Workshops Transfer of Powers) Order, 1921)					
Total	0	0	0	0	

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

MILK SUPPLY There is only 1 farm in the district from which milk is supplied ; this is kept in a satisfactory condition.

There are 5 Dairies in the District, 1 Cowkeeper, 1 vendor of skim milk only, 4 small shops where milk is sold in bottles only; and 19 other dairymen who deliver milk in this District, but have premises in other Districts.

Under the Milk (Special Designations) Order two vendors have supplementary licenses for the sale of Grade A Milk.

MEAT. There are two slaughter-houses in the district ; 62 visits of inspection were made, no notice served for default. No unsound meat was found.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

NOTIFIED CASES AND DEATHS DURING 1933.

DISEASE.	Total	Under 1 yr.	1—2	2—3	3—4	4—5	5—10	10—15	15—20	20—25	25—35	35—45	45—65	Over 65	Re- moved Hosp'tal	Deaths
Diphtheria ...																
Scarlet Fever ...	66		2	2	5	9	20	17	4	5	2				49	
Erysipelas ...	4										1	2		1		
Pneumonia ...	20	2			2	2	2			4	1	6		3	3	
Peurperal Fever																
C. Spinal Fever	2	1		1											2	2
Typhoid Fever ...	3						1		2						3	
Infantile Paralysis																
	95	3	2	3	5	11	23	17	6	9	4	8		4	57	2

TUBERCULOSIS.

New Cases and Mortality during 1933.

Age Periods		NEW CASES				DEATHS			
		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
		M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
5	...	—	—	2	—	—	—	1	—
10	...	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
15	...	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
20	...	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—
25	...	—	2	—	—	—	1	1	—
35	...	3	2	1	—	—	3	—	—
45	...	—	2	—	—	—	2	—	—
55	...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals		4	7	4			9	3	0

Of the 15 new cases notified during the year, 10 received in-patient treatment either at Robertsbridge or Southlands Hospital. Five of these died within 6 months of being notified. Portslade comes within the area of the Hove Dispensary, and in that connexion I paid 8 visits to patients in their own homes.

PUBLIC HEALTH (PREVENTION OF TUBERCULOSIS) REGULATIONS
AND PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1925, SECTION 62.

No action was necessary under these powers.



